

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

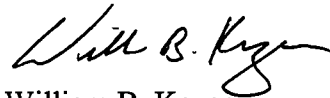
Claims 1-37 were pending. Claims 12-37 have now been withdrawn. Therefore, upon entry of this Response, claims 1-11 will be pending in the above-identified application. The foregoing election is made with traverse. Examination of the subject matter recited in the claims of Groups I-II would not place a substantially greater burden on the Examiner. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the Restriction Requirement and to consider claims 1-37 together in the present case.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 925-472-5000.

Respectfully submitted,



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